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ABSTRACT

This book illuminates play as a universal and culture-specific activity. It provides needed information about the behavior of children in diverse cultural contexts as well as about the play of children in unassimilated cultural or subcultural contexts. It offers readers the opportunity to develop greater sensitivity to and better understanding of the important cultural differences that confront early childhood teachers and teacher educators. Titles of the 10 essays are: (1) "The Need to Look at Play in Diverse Cultural Settings" (Jaipaul L. Roopnarine and James E. Johnson); (2) "Play in the East Indian Context" (Jaipaul L. Roopnarine and others); (3) "Children's Play in Taiwan" (Hui-Ling Wendy Pan); (4) "Children's Play in Japan" (Michio Takeuchi); (5) "Peer Interactions in Polynesia: A View from the Marquesas" (Mary Martini); (6) "Mainland Puerto Rican Children" (Lourdes Diaz Soto and Lillian Negron); (7) Child's Play--una cosa naturale: An Italian Perspective" (Rebecca S. New); (8) "African Children's Play and the Emergence of the Sexual Division of Labor (Marianne N. Bloch and Susan M. Adler); (9) "Meaning in Mud: Yup'ik Eskimo Girls at Play" (Kathleen Bennett deMarrais and others); and (10) "Culture, Play, and Early Childhood Education" (Celeste Lasater and James E. Johnson). (HTH)

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